



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
State Office  
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August 26, 2003

## OKLAHOMA BULLETIN NO. OK300-3-4

### SUBJECT: LTP – Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) 26<sup>th</sup> Signup Conservation Plan Development

**Purpose:** To provide field offices information on final approval of CRP applications for conservation plan development in 2003.

**Expiration Date:** September 30, 2003

### Action Required By September 26, 2003

Agricultural Secretary Ann M. Veneman today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will accept 2 million acres of the nation's most environmentally sensitive land into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). In Oklahoma, a total of 886 offers were received for enrollment statewide totaling 78,686.8 acres during the May 5 to June 13, 2003, signup period. Of that total, 500 offers for 44,222 acres met the acceptable offer criteria and are expected to be developed into contracts. All offers were ranked on the same basis, and offers with an EBI score of at least 269 were considered acceptable for enrollment. Following is the list of counties and number of contracts tentatively approved:

County	No.	County	No.	County	No.	County	No.
Alfalfa	34	Beckham	16	Bryan	13	Caddo	9
Canadian	4	Craig	1	Custer	11	Dewey	5
Ellis	24	Garfield	20	Grady	2	Grant	109
Greer	2	Harper	13	Jackson	10	Kay	16
Kingfisher	13	Kiowa	27	Major	37	Noble	9
Nowata	2	Osage	4	Ottawa	1	Payne	1
Roger Mills	7	Tillman	8	Washita	9	Woods	71
Woodward	17						

FSA will provide district conservationists in these counties a listing of the accepted offers in their county. Development of conservation plans is required no later than September 26, 2003. After development and approval of the conservation plans, FSA must obtain approval of the CRP-1s and have them entered into System 36 no later than September 30, 2003.

The short timeframe and heavy workload experienced through other programs such as EQIP and WHIP may require a redistribution of the workforce to meet the deadline. Field offices should coordinate necessary assistance between their administrative team and the appropriate Assistant State Conservationist (Field Operations).

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Applications should be reviewed carefully to assure that the selected cover type is appropriate for the capability of the offered acreage. The conservation plan will also include required cover management practices to be scheduled and completed over the life of the practice. The attached FSA notice and table provide the required management activities to be planned in the contracts. After this assessment, a conservation plan/contract support document should be developed to implement establishment of the selected vegetative cover within 12 months. If a cover crop is needed, the period may be extended to 24 months. An additional 12 months may be allowed if there is a planned conversion of an existing cover. The maximum allowed period for planned establishment may not exceed 36 months without action by the FSA Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP).

The following items are to be noted in the completion of the planning.

- ☐ FSA county office will provide the CRP-2 for each offer that has been accepted for enrollment into the CRP. A map will be attached to the CRP-2 identifying the tract and fields for the offer. From the CRP-2, the planner will locate information pertinent to the planning process:
  - ✓ Block 1. Tract number for the land enrolled in the contract.
  - ✓ Block 3b. Year to start the contract. Applicants were allowed to select the program year to begin the contract. The beginning date can be October 1, 2003, or October 1, 2004.
  - ✓ Block 11. List of the CP practices and acres for each practice. If a guzzler was selected by the participant for providing wildlife watering, FSA will note in writing in this block.
  - ✓ Block 11c. Notations in this block will identify if the participant will receive cost share or the practices will be shown as non-cost share.
  - ✓ Block 11d. This block will identify the length of the contract for the identified practice. If two practices are included of different contract length, the plan will reflect the appropriate length based on the field the practice is being applied. FSA will separate these fields into separate contracts, if warranted.
- ☐ NRCS will complete an NRCS-CPA-52 for each contract and provide a copy to FSA.
- ☐ For CP-10, include appropriate required management items. Note brush and weed species to be controlled during the life of the CRP. Cost-share is available to remove these species from CP-10 within the first year. Thereafter, and for all other practices, these will be required to be removed from CRP at the participant's expense under cover maintenance.
- ☐ A field visit is necessary to verify existing permanent cover and cover crop requirements. If the field visit or planning activity determines errors were made in the original offer, the district conservationist will notify the FSA CED immediately.
- ☐ FSA has determined that Conservation District board signatures are required.
- ☐ FSA, CRP2, Exhibit 14 is provided as a check sheet for conservation planning.

Refer questions directly to your respective program liaison.

*/s/ John Glover, Acting For*

M. DARREL DOMINICK  
State Conservationist

Attachments

**For:** County Offices

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**Required Management Practices for CRP**

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**Approved by:** State Executive Director



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**1 Overview**

**A Purpose**

This notice provides the list of CRP Required Management Activities that have been approved by the State Committee.

**2 County Office Action**

**A CRP Required Management Activities List**

Approved CRP contracts, effective with signup 26, are required to perform management activities for the specified practice. Exhibit 1 contains the approved list of CRP Required Management Activities. Counties shall discuss the required management activities with the producers making General Signup 26 offers and all future continuous signup offers.

**B Required Management of CP3 and CP11**

Required management practices for CP3 and CP11 are still being developed and will be provided to counties soon.

**C Cost Share**

Producers will receive cost share for required management practices at 50 percent of the cost to establish the practice. The cost share will be a flat rate. Producers will receive cost share for required management practices regardless of whether cost share payments were elected for practice establishment.

**D Voluntary Management Practices**

Producers may elect to perform the Exhibit 1 management activities on currently existing effective CRP contracts and receive cost share.

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<b>Disposal Date:</b> December 1, 2003	<b>Distribution:</b> County Offices
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# OKLAHOMA

## CRP REQUIRED MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

### **REQUIRED MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS:**

**Affected Contracts:** CRP contracts effective, beginning with signup 26, are required to perform management activities for the specified practice.

**Voluntary Management:** All CRP contracts, in effect prior to signup 26, may voluntarily request to revise the conservation plan to include management activities.

**Cost Share:** Participants are eligible to receive cost share (50 percent rate) for the management activity, not to exceed \$50 per acre per year, not to exceed \$100 per acre for the life of a 10-year contract, and \$125 per acre for the life of a contract in excess of 11 years.

**Compliance:** Failure to perform the planned management activity on a required management contract may result in a contract violation.

**Affected Practices:** The following chart identifies which practices management will be required on the CRP acreage and identifies the activity and timing.

#### **Definitions:**

**Practice:** Listing of the CRP conservation practices for the required management activity to be performed.

**Management Activity:** Brief description of the required management action/activity to be performed.

**Timing:** When applicable to a specific activity, this describes the time of the year (window) this activity is to be performed. These descriptions will need to be captured in the conservation plan narrative for the practice.

**Frequency:** This lists the years the management activity is to be planned to be completed. Begin counting the years from the date of enrollment. These reflect anticipated years of management for the purposes of scheduling the activity. Actual years the required management will be performed will vary depending on site specific determinations. The schedule of operations will show these practices scheduled to be performed at the specified intervals.

**Specification:** Where shown, the specification will further restrict or define the NRCS applicable NRCS specification relating to the required management activity. These descriptions will need to be captured in the conservation plan narrative for the practice.

Practice	Management Activity	Timing	Frequency	Specifications
CP1	mow or burn	February 1 – April 1 for warm season grasses  August 1 – September 1 for cool season grasses	year 4/7/10	a 30' buffer must be left around each field or there must be approved alternate wildlife escape cover located adjacent to the field  shrubs need to be protected from mowing or burning
	nutrient mgmt. evaluated	February 1 – April 1 for warm season grasses  August 1 – September 1 for cool season grasses	year 4/7/10	soil test at the time of mow or burn – apply nutrients according to NRCS Practice Standard 590, Nutrient Management
	<b>option</b> – light disking	same as above	once during life of contract (not in year 10)	tandem disc, straight gang, or harrow whole field
CP2	mow or burn	February 1 – April 1 for warm season grasses  August 1 – September 1 for cool season grasses	year 6/10	a 30' buffer must be left around each field or there must be approved alternate wildlife escape cover located adjacent to the field  shrubs need to be protected from mowing or burning
CP3				
CP3A	none			
CP4B	refer to CP1 for introduced stands – refer to CP2 for native stands			
CP4D	refer to CP1 for introduced stands – refer to CP2 for native stands			
CP5A	fertilize	Spring	years 3/6/9/12/15	according to soil test
CP8A	mow	January – March	years 2/4/6/8/10	
	nutrient management	Spring	years 2/5/8/10	apply nutrients according to soil test and NRCS Practice Standard 590, Nutrient Mgmt.
CP9	<b>option</b> – till	dewater – May till – July – August (3-5 trips)	year 2 and every 2 years after	perform according to NRCS Practice Standard 646, Shallow Water Acres

Practice	Management Activity	Timing	Frequency	Specifications
				Mgmt. for Wildlife
	<b>option</b> –burn	dewater – January burn – February – April	year 2 and every 2 years after	perform according to NRCS Practice Standard 646 and 338, Prescribed Burn
CP10	refer to CP1 for introduced grasses – refer to CP2 for native grasses		1/4/7/10 – introduced 1/6/10 – native	
	Control of undesirable species by: - chemical control - mechanical control, or - burning	according to NRCS or OSU recommendation	first year of rollover contracts	control of the following, if present – Juniper, Salt Cedar, Russian Olive, Honey Locust, Baccharis, Mesquite, Siberian Elm, Osage Orange, Scotch Thistle, Musk Thistle, Distaff Thistle, and Sericea Lespedeza
CP11				
CP12	none			
CP15A	refer to CP1 for introduced grasses – refer to CP2 for native grasses			no 30' buffer requirement
CP15B	refer to CP1 for introduced grasses – refer to CP2 for native grasses			no 30' buffer requirement
CP16A	prune and fertilize		years 3/6/9/12/15	according to soil test
CP17A	prune and fertilize		years 3/6/9/12/15	according to soil test
18B	refer to CP2			
18C	refer to CP2			
CP21	refer to CP1 for introduced grasses – refer to CP2 for native grasses			no 30' buffer requirement
CP22	refer to CP2			activity required in Zone 3 only
CP23	none			
CP24	refer to CP1			
CP25	refer to CP2		years 6/10/15	no buffer requirement
CP27	refer to CP2			no buffer requirement

Practice	Management Activity	Timing	Frequency	Specifications
CP28	refer to CP2			no buffer requirement
CP29	refer to CP2			no buffer requirement
CP30	none			

**Requirements Prior to Approving CRP-1  
Checklist  
(2-CRP paragraphs 112, 236, and 253)**

The following checklist must be completed and placed in the contract file prior to CRP-1 approval.

Contract No. \_\_\_\_\_ Tract No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Conservation Plan of Operations Review**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>N/A</u></b>
1. Signed and agreed to by (1) all signatories to the CRP-1, (2) NRCS, and (3) the Conservation District.	_____	_____	_____
2. CP-22 natural regeneration (1) the producer plant the approved cover w/o cost share if approved cover is not established within two years of CRP-1 effective date, (2) NRCS spot check of site at the end of two years to determine if established and meets standards and specifications.	_____	_____	_____
3. Includes all of the eligible acres offered for CRP.	_____	_____	_____
4. Prohibits harvesting or grazing of CRP acreage for the life of the CRP-1.	_____	_____	_____
5. Includes required maintenance for weed, insect, and pest control for life of CRP-1.	_____	_____	_____
6. Includes tree thinning and wildlife opening requirements, if applicable.	_____	_____	_____
7. Contains practices necessary for successful establishment and maintenance of the approved cover on all acres enrolled.	_____	_____	_____
8. Encourages best method for maintenance of the approved cover such as prescribed burn or other options.	_____	_____	_____
9. Includes only practices requested on the CRP-1.	_____	_____	_____
10. Includes C/S for eligible practices only.	_____	_____	_____
11. Does not include C/S cost if the producer declined C/S.	_____	_____	_____
12. Includes application rates (seed, lime, fertilizer) consistent with practice specifications or references the NRCS job sheet for the practice.	_____	_____	_____
13. Ensures the CRP cover will not be disturbed during the primary nesting season May 1 through July 1. (The cover may be disturbed during the primary nesting season until the final status review, if necessary, to establish the approved cover. See 2-CRP subparagraph 237 A.	_____	_____	_____
14. Meets the objective of the CPA, when applicable.	_____	_____	_____
15. The time frame to establish the cover is specified and does not exceed time limits of 2-CRP, subparagraph 237 C (12 months or 24 months; 36 months, if converting a cover, all from the effective date of CRP-1).	_____	_____	_____

Continued on the next page



**Requirements Prior to Approving CRP-1 (Continued)**  
**Checklist**  
**(2-CRP paragraphs 112, 236, and 253)**

**Conservation Plan of Operations Review (Continued)**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>N/A</u></b>
16. Includes: (1) FSA field number and acreage, (2) time frame and deadline to implement the approved practice, and (3) a map of the acres to be enrolled.	___	___	___
17. CPO information is contained on the form, AD-1155E, NRCS LTP-11, CPA-68, or similar electronic generated form (not a contract support document.)	___	___	___
18. NRCS has completed NRCS-CPA-52 for environmental impact.	___	___	___

**COC or Designee shall reject the plan if these requirements have not been met. The CPO must be retained with the contract file since it becomes a part of the contract.**

**Requirements Prior to Approval of CRP-1**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>N/A</u></b>
1. Offer is included on list of acceptable offers.	___	___	___
2. Separate CRP-1's are completed for (1) each CRP-2, and (2) practices with different life spans.	___	___	___
3. Acreage is determined by paid-for measurement service unless official acres or reoffered exact CRP acres.	___	___	___
4. All required signatures (see 2-CRP paragraph 198) have been obtained on the CRP-1, CPO, Certification Statement (2-CRP subparagraph 86 E), and CCC-505	___	___	___
5. Eligibility determinations have been made according to 1-PL, and the applicable CCC-502 form on file.	___	___	___
6. AGI certification, CCC-526, on file	___	___	___
7. AD-1026 on file.	___	___	___
8. CPO is consistent with policies in 2-CRP, paragraphs 236 and 242, and review has been completed by COC or designee.	___	___	___
9. If TSP completed CPO, has the FSA-850 and FSA-852 been completed?	___	___	___
10. CCC-505 on file.	___	___	___
11. DCP contract acres and CRP acres equal to or less than available agriculture use land on the farm? (2-CRP, paragraph 225).	___	___	___
12. CRP-1 totally completed.	___	___	___
13. Second party review of all eligibility requirements and maximum payment calculations. CRP-1 and CRP-2 are initialed by second party reviewer.	___	___	___

Continued on the next page

**Requirements Prior to Approving CRP-1 (Continued)**  
**Checklist**  
**(2-CRP paragraphs 112, 236, and 253)**

**Requirements Prior to Approving CRP-1 (Continued)**

<u><b>Description</b></u>	<u><b>Yes</b></u>	<u><b>No</b></u>	<u><b>N/A</b></u>
14. Multiple county producer list has been reviewed. This review is to ensure the total value of an individual's CRP does not exceed \$50,000 limitation. Consider SIP and PIP payments in applicable years. See 2-CRP, paragraph 371.	_____	_____	_____
15. If a practice is changed, the new EBI is equal or greater than the EBI of the original practice(s).	_____	_____	_____
16. If continuous signup CRP-1, all applicable requirements, according to 2-CRP, paragraph 112 have been met.	_____	_____	_____
17. Is this a COC member, FSA employee, USDA employee, Conservation District Board Member, STC member, SED, State Office employee, or other FSA employee? If so, see 2-CRP, subparagraph 253 D for review and approving authority.	_____	_____	_____
18. Ownership of land verified by county office (courthouse records, deeds, etc.)	_____	_____	_____
<b>The answer to all of the above questions shall be "yes," except for those that are not applicable, and Item 17, before a COC or designee approves the CRP-1.</b>			
<b>Producer(s) have been sent the CRP-24 (2-CRP, Exhibit 12) notifying them that the CRP-1 has been approved and the effective date.</b>	_____	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer